

# SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AND WEST SUSSEX

## Outstanding Circular Walks

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# Devil's Dyke

**Start** Devil's Dyke pub

**Distance** 3¾ miles (6km)

**Height gain** 655 feet (200m)

**Approximate time** 2½ hours

**Parking** National Trust car park adjoining pub

**Route terrain** Downland, woodland and farmland paths and tracks

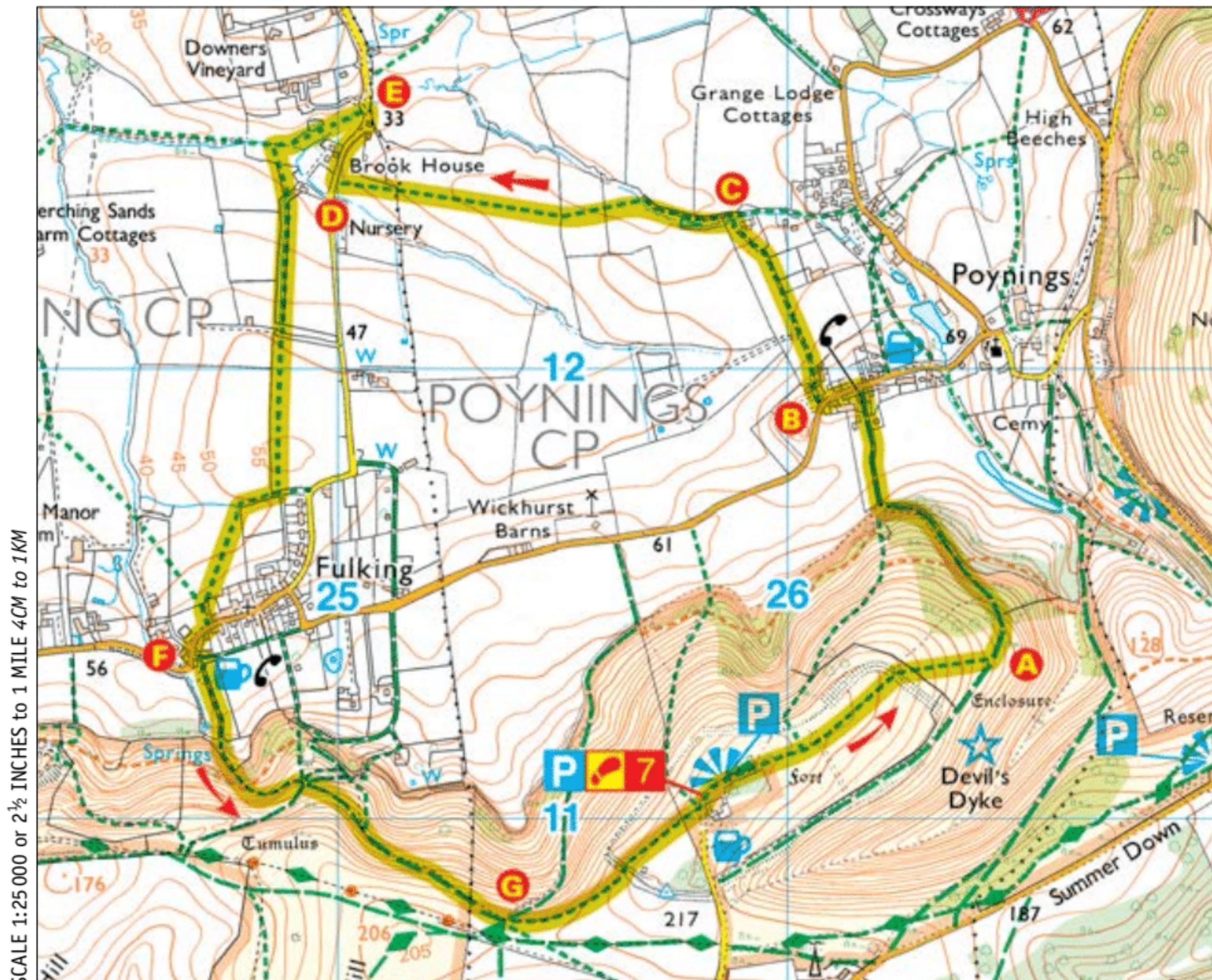
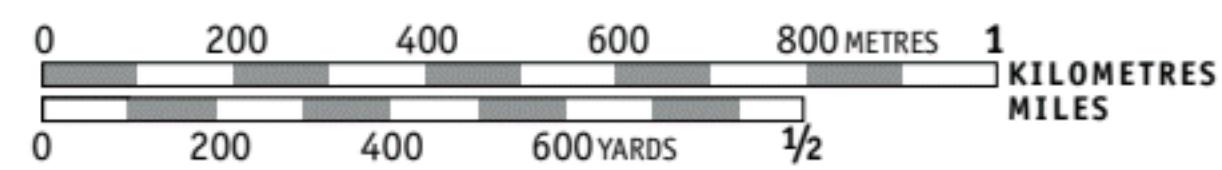
## GPS waypoints

- TQ 258 110
- TQ 264 113
- TQ 260 119
- TQ 258 123
- TQ 250 124
- TQ 250 125
- TQ 246 113
- TQ 253 107

**Ordnance Survey maps** Landranger 198 (Brighton & Lewes), Explorer OL11 (Brighton & Hove)

*Starting from one of southern England's finest viewpoints, the rest of this walk continues in the same vein. The climb back to the ridge at the end is an exhilarating finale to a route which combines the best features of downland-and field walking, as well as visiting two charming villages.*

On a fine day you may have to arrive early to find a place in the car park at the **Devil's Dyke**. The spectacular view makes



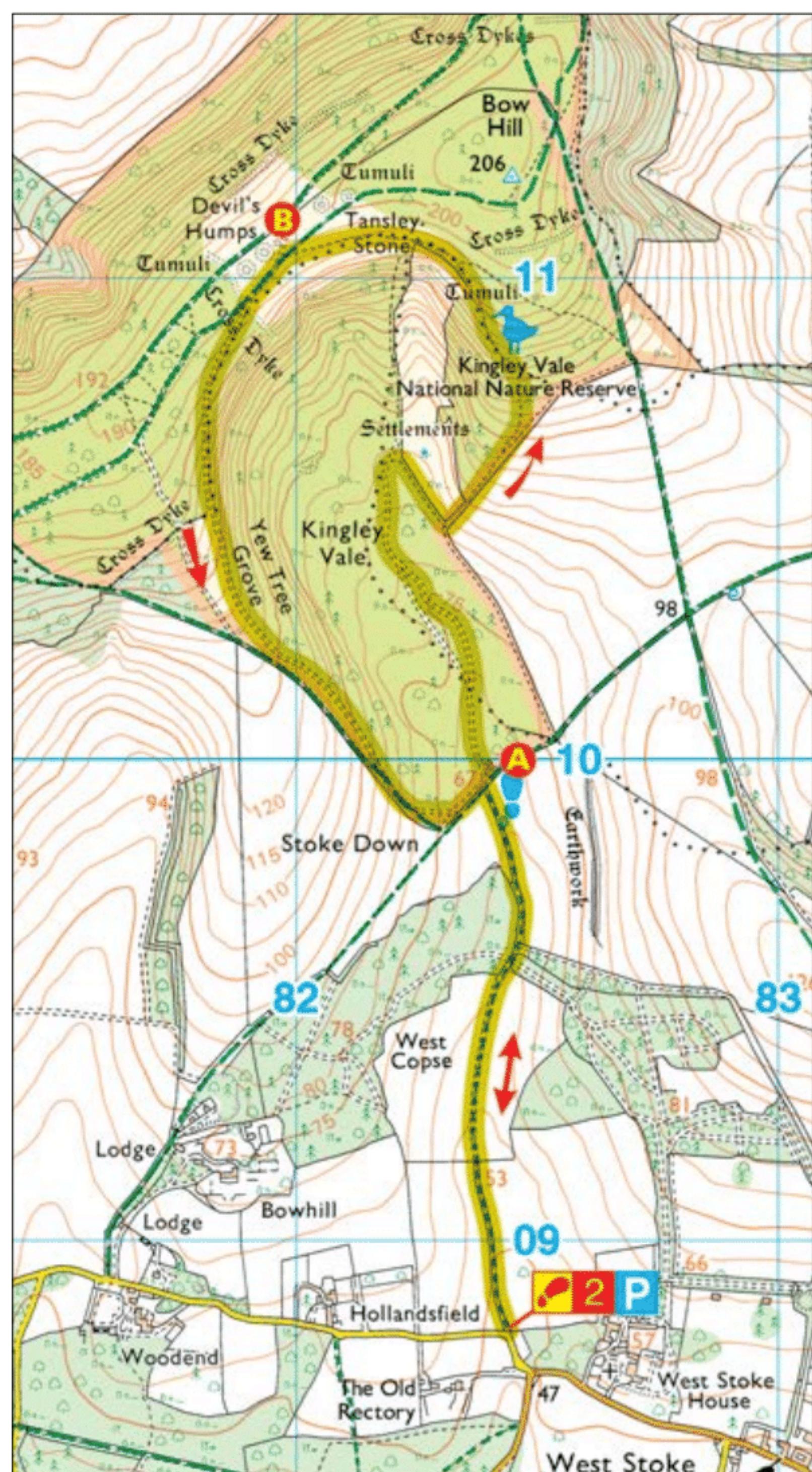


*Ancient yews in Kingley Vale*

ground to reach the top of Bow Hill, where you meet a straight track at post 19 **B**. To the right are two of the four Devil's Humps (the other two are hidden by trees) – Bronze Age tombs erected around 500 BC. It is worthwhile making a brief detour to them for the magnificent all-round view: westwards over the downs and eastwards to the coast and inlets of Chichester harbour.

Level with the Devil's Humps, bear left to join a parallel path which re-enters woodland and passes through another dark and eerie part of the yew forest, heading gently downhill above the rim of the steep-sided, thickly wooded vale. Keep curving gradually to the left all the while, to reach the edge of the nature reserve **A**. Turn right and retrace your steps along the track to West Stoke. ●

0 200 400 600 800 METRES 1 KILOMETRES  
0 200 400 600 YARDS  $\frac{1}{2}$  MILES



SCALE 1:25 000 or 2 1/2 INCHES to 1 MILE 4CM to 1KM



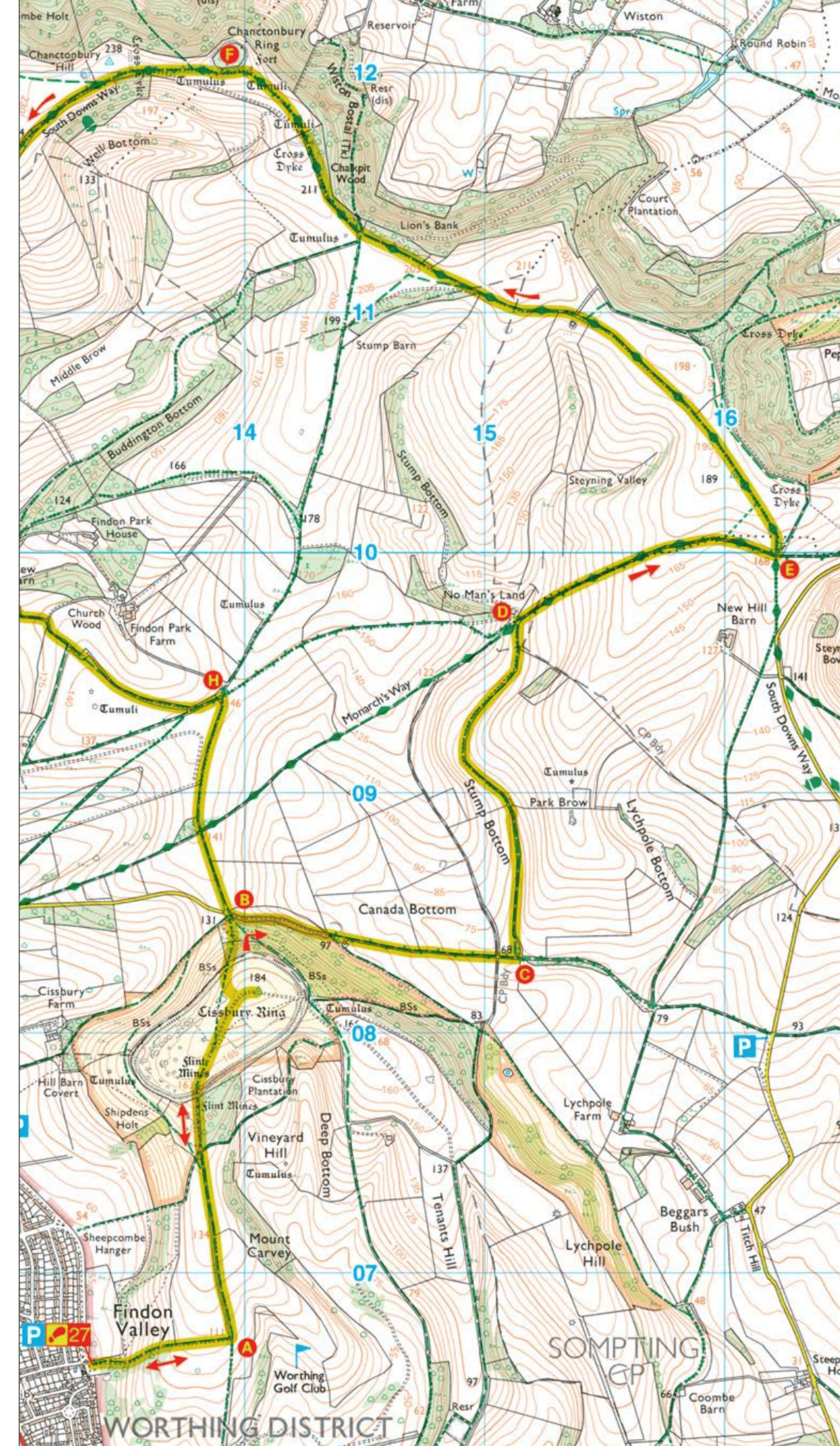
Pass through a kissing-gate and head up river directly beside the Adur. The river here was once a broad estuary with boats reaching the port of Steyning. Visible along this stretch are the remnants of the old salt industry that thrived on the mud flats before the ground level rose by about 10 feet (3m). Go through a second kissing-gate, avoid the footbridge and continue up river to cross a series of stiles. Pass beneath pylon cables and as the river curves left towards a bridge, turn right to join a footpath, crossing a footbridge **B**. Follow the field edge on a grassy track,

*By the Adur*

passing under the pylon cables to reach the entrance to Stretham Manor. Keep ahead on the tarmac drive, pass Stretham Farm House and a waymarked track and follow the farm road as it bears left.

Turn left at the next footpath sign **C** and follow the field edge with the boundary on the right. Cross a stile to a path T-junction and turn right to the corner of the pasture. Turn left at the path junction before the gate and continue to a stile and gate. Carry on ahead along the right-hand side of the next field, go through a gate and continue along the field edge, keeping trees to the right. On reaching a gate and stile, cross the grass and a track to

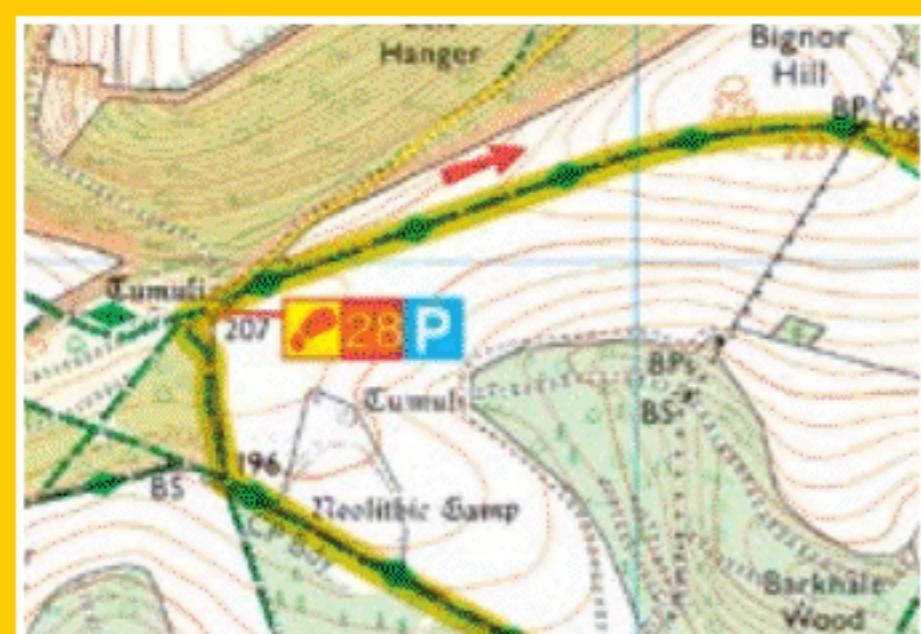




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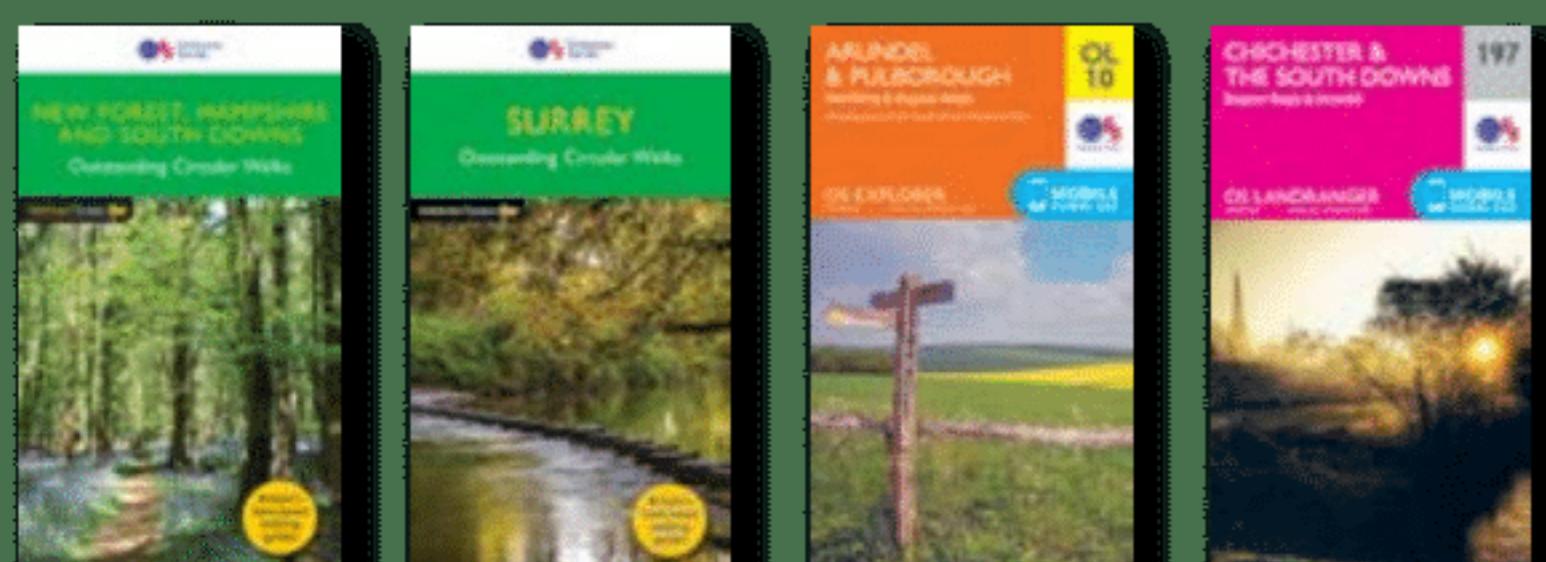
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